

Toomey; Mr. Shays; Mr. Shadegg; Mr. Fossella; Mr. Gary Miller of California; Mr. Cantor; Mr. Grucci; Ms. Hart; Ms. Capito; Mr. Ferguson; Mr. Rogers of Michigan and Mr. Tiberi.

Committee on Government Reform: Mr. Burton of Indiana, Chairman; Mr. Gilman; Mrs. Morella; Mr. Shays; Ms. Ros-Lehtinen; Mr. McHugh; Mr. Horn; Mr. Mica; Mr. Thomas Davis of Virginia; Mr. Souder; Mr. Scarborough; Mr. LaTourette; Mr. Barr; Mr. Miller of Florida; Mr. Hutchinson; Mr. Ose; Mr. Lewis of Kentucky; Mr. Flake; Ms. Jo Ann Davis of Virginia and Mr. Platts.

Committee on International Relations: Mr. Hyde, Chairman; Mr. Gilman; Mr. Leach; Mr. Bereuter; Mr. Smith of New Jersey; Mr. Burton of Indiana; Mr. Gallegly; Ms. Ros-Lehtinen; Mr. Ballenger; Mr. Rohrabacher; Mr. Royce; Mr. King; Mr. Chabot; Mr. Houghton; Mr. McHugh; Mr. Burr; Mr. Cooksey; Mr. Tancredo; Mr. Paul; Mr. Smith of Michigan; Mr. Pitts; Mr. Issa; Mr. Cantor; Mr. Flake; Mr. Kerns and Ms. Jo Ann Davis of Virginia.

Committee on the Judiciary: Mr. Sensenbrenner, Chairman; Mr. Hyde; Mr. Gekas; Mr. Coble; Mr. Smith of Texas; Mr. Gallegly; Mr. Goodlatte; Mr. Chabot; Mr. Barr; Mr. Jenkins; Mr. Hutchinson; Mr. Cannon; Mr. Graham; Mr. Bachus; Mr. Scarborough; Mr. Hostettler; Mr. Green of Wisconsin; Mr. Keller; Mr. Issa; Ms. Hart and Mr. Flake.

Committee on Resources: Mr. Hansen, Chairman; Mr. Young of Alaska; Mr. Tauzin; Mr. Saxton; Mr. Gallegly; Mr. Duncan; Mr. Hefley; Mr. Gilchrest; Mr. Calvert; Mr. McInnis; Mr. Pombo; Mrs. Cubin; Mr. Radanovich; Mr. Jones of North Carolina; Mr. Thornberry; Mr. Cannon; Mr. Brady of Texas; Mr. Peterson of Pennsylvania; Mr. Schaffer; Mr. Gibbons; Mr. Souder; Mr. Walden of Oregon; Mr. Sherwood; Mr. Hayes; Mr. Simpson; Mr. Tancredo; Mr. Otter and Mr. Osborne.

Committee on Science: Mr. Boehlert, Chairman; Mr. Sensenbrenner; Mr. Smith of Texas; Mrs. Morella; Mr. Weldon of Pennsylvania; Mr. Rohrabacher; Mr. Barton; Mr. Calvert; Mr. Smith of Michigan; Mr. Bartlett; Mr. Ehlers; Mr. Weldon of Florida; Mr. Gutmacht; Mr. Cannon; Mr. Nethercutt; Mr. Lucas of Oklahoma; Mr. Gary Miller of California; Mr. Biggert; Mr. Culberson; Mr. Akin; Mr. Johnson of Illinois; Mr. Pence; Mr. Grucci and Ms. Hart.

Committee on Small Business: Mr. Manzullo, Chairman; Mr. Combest; Mr. Hefley; Mr. Bartlett; Mr. LoBiondo; Mrs. Kelly; Mr. Chabot; Mr. English; Mr. Toomey; Mr. DeMint; Mr. Thune; Mr. Pence; Mr. Ferguson; Mr. Issa; Mr. Graves; Mr. Schrock; Mr. Grucci and Mr. Akin.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Mr. Young of Alaska, Chairman; Mr. Shuster; Mr. Petri; Mr. Boehlert; Mr. Coble; Mr. Duncan; Mr. Gilchrest; Mr. Horn; Mr. Mica; Mr. Quinn; Mr. Ehlers; Mr. Bachus; Mr. LaTourette; Mrs. Kelly; Mr. Baker; Mr. Bass; Mr. Ney; Mr. Hutchinson; Mr. Cooksey; Mr. Thune; Mr. LoBiondo; Mr. Moran of Kansas; Mr. Sherwood; Mr. DeMint; Mr. Bereuter; Mr. Simpson; Mr. Isakson; Mr. Simmons; Mr. Rogers of Michigan; Ms. Capito; Mr. Kirk; Mr. Brown of South Carolina; Mr. Johnson of Illinois; Mr. Kerns; Mr. Rehberg; Mr. Platts; Mr. Ferguson; Mr. Graves; Mr. Otter; Mr. Kennedy of Minnesota.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Mr. Smith of New Jersey, Chairman; Mr. Stump; Mr. Bilirakis; Mr. Spence; Mr. Everett; Mr. Buyer; Mr. Quinn; Mr. Stearns; Mr. Moran of Kansas; Mr. Hayworth; Mr. McKeon; Mr. Gibbons; Mr. Simpson; Mr. Baker; Mr. Simmons and Mr. Crenshaw.

Committee on Ways and Means: Mr. Thomas, Chairman; Mr. Crane; Mr. Shaw; Mrs. Johnson of Connecticut; Mr. Houghton; Mr. Herger; Mr. McCrery; Mr. Camp; Mr. Ramstad; Mr. Nussle; Mr. Johnson of Texas; Ms. Dunn; Mr. Collins; Mr. Portman; Mr. English; Mr. Watkins; Mr. Hayworth; Mr. Weller; Mr. Hulshof; Mr. McInnis; Mr. Lewis of Kentucky; Mr. Foley; Mr. Brady of Texas and Mr. Ryan of Wisconsin.

Mr. GOSS (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican conference, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 20) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 20

Resolved, That the following Member be, and he is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Appropriations: Mr. Goode.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to clause 2(b) of Public Law 98-183, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following member to the Commission on Civil Rights on the part of the House to fill the existing vacancy thereon:

Dr. Abigail N. Thernstrom, Lexington, Massachusetts.

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

EXPLANATION OF PROCEEDINGS OCCURRING DURING JOINT SESSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the House for 5 minutes to speak about what took place here in

joint session today and to talk about what has led us to this point.

Today, here in this Chamber, we had a joint session to count the electoral votes; and, of course, there were some of us, mostly represented by Members from the Congressional Black Caucus, who chose to come to the floor in an attempt to object to the acceptance of the electoral votes from Florida. We did that, despite the fact we understood the rules. We knew that in order to object, we had to have in writing the objection, signed by both a House Member and a Member of the Senate.

We did not have one Member of the Senate who had signed any objection, but we came to the floor of this House and we said to the Vice President, who presided over the joint session, each time that we objected we said that, no, we did not have a signature from a United States Senator, that we only had our signature, we had the signatures of some of our colleagues, and we had the support of our constituents.

It was important for us to do this. It was important because we have just experienced one of the most traumatizing and devastating elections, particularly as it played out in Florida, that this country has ever been involved with.

□ 1345

I would like to cite to you some of what happened in Florida that has caused us so much concern. I am going to quote from an article that was done by Laura Flanders. I will not be quoting all of the article, but I will be submitting the rest of this for inclusion in the RECORD.

On day one after the election, there was a story in the Florida papers about an unauthorized police roadblock, stopping cars not a mile from a black church-turned-polling-booth. NAACP volunteers reported being swamped with complaints from registered voters who found it impossible to vote. They heard stories of intimidation at and around polling places; demands for superfluous ID; people complained about a pattern of singling out black men and youth for criminal background checks, and in call after call, would-be voters complained they had been denied language interpretation and other help at the polls.

By now it is clear that overwhelmed election workers made a mass of mistakes, but those mistakes were laced through with some clear intent to suppress some votes.

A full 3 weeks after the election, The New York Times finally took a serious look and reported that, anticipating a large turnout in a tight race, Florida election officials had given laptop computers to precinct workers so they would have direct access to the State's voter rolls, but the computers only went to some precincts and only one went to a precinct whose people were predominantly black. The technology gap in the no-laptop precincts forced the workers there to rely on a few phone lines to the head office. Voters whose names did not appear on the rolls were held up, while workers tried to get through on the phone, for hours, or until they gave up.

For those who voted, there was another technology glitch. Mr. Speaker, 185,000 Floridians cast votes that did not count. Theirs